Sparks from Fr. Mark

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 12, 2008

Over the last month or so I have been lifting up the possibility of our parish offering the Life Teen and Edge programs to our high school and middle school youth, while keeping our Gatherings of Grace in the forefront as the way we pass on our Catholic faith and identity as a parish community.

Life Teen is an international Catholic movement that serves the Church by providing resources and faith experiences that help lead teens closer to Christ. This is accomplished through a vibrant Eucharistic spirituality and by creating opportunities for teens to grow in their faith. Edge is a Catholic middle school youth ministry that uses the Life Teen model to meet the catechetical, educational, spiritual, emotional, and social needs of young adolescents.

The Life Teen/Edge has a spirituality that is driven by the Holy Spirit. It is through Christ, with Christ and in Christ that we do all things and give all glory to God. This movement of the Church is guided by the teachings of Christ, his holy word and his precious Body and Blood. The entire ministry is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary so that young people may be led to the feet of her son.

One of the things that really drew me to think about Life Teen/Edge is that at the heart of the program is a Eucharistic-centered spirituality. Part of the Life Teen/Edge program would be for the parish community to offer a Eucharistic celebration on Sunday evenings that would include music more geared to our young people, but would also be open to everyone the parish.

This coming Sunday through Wednesday, Teresa Thompson, Aaron and Cathleen Denekamp, Eric and Jenny Scherr and I will be attending a Life Teen/Edge Basic Training session to learn more about the program.

In the Sparks column over the next several weeks I will share further highlights of the Life Teen and Edge programs. I ask you to pray and think about the possibilities this may have for our parish community, our middle school and high school youth and their families.

Blessings,

Fr. Mark

The Week Ahead

October 13-19, 2008

Monday, October 13

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: Galatians 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1; Psalm 113:1-7; Luke 11:29-32
No Daily Liturgy
6:30 – 8:00 pm: Cub Scouts
7:00 pm: Parish Book Club

Tuesday, October14

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: Galatians 5:1-6; Psalm 119:41-48; Luke 11:37-41
No Daily Liturgy
7:00 pm: Boy Scouts

Wednesday, October 15

Memorial of St. Teresa of Jesus

Liturgical Color: White
Readings: Galatians 5:18-25; Psalm 1:1-4, 6; Luke 11:42-46
No Daily Liturgy
9:00 am – noon: Food Pantry
6:00 – 8:00 pm: High School Youth Event

Thursday, October 16

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: Ephesians 1:1-10; Psalm 98:1-6; Luke 11:47-54
8:00 am: Daily Liturgy (Intention: For the repose of Bridget Hansen)

Friday, October 17

Memorial of St. Ignatius of Antioch

Liturgical Color: Red
Readings: Ephesians 1:11-14; Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 12-13; Luke 12:1-7
No Daily Liturgy

Saturday Morning, October 18

Feast of St. Luke the Evangelist

Liturgical Color: Red
Readings: 2 Timothy 4:10-17; Psalm 14:10-13, 17-18; Luke 10:1-9
No Daily Liturgy
9:00 – noon: Food Pantry

2:00 pm: Sacrament of Matrimony
Jammie McNaughton and Jaron Volk

Saturday Evening, October 18

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6; Psalm 96:1,3-5, 7-10; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5; Matthew 22:15-21
3:30 – 4:30 pm: Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:00 pm: Sunday Liturgy (Intention: For the repose of Natalie Leonesio)

Sunday, October 19

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Liturgical Color: Green
Readings: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6; Psalm 96:1,3-5, 7-10; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5; Matthew 22:15-21
8:00 am: Sunday Liturgy (Intention: For the OLBH parish community)
8:30 – 10:15 am: RCIA class
10:30 am: Sunday Liturgy (Intention: For the ministry of Bishop Blase Cupich)
3:00 – 7:00 pm: Oktoberfest 2008

Parish Community News

October 12, 2008

OLBH Ministry Fair

The weekend of October 25-26 has been selected for this year's Ministry Fair. We hope you take time to visit with ministry representatives at tables in the parish hall and consider volunteering to help with one of the 30+ ministries active in our parish. The Ministry Fair strives to provide the volunteers the parish needs to effectively function and achieve goals. The parish needs you and Christ needs you to bring his love to others in a way only you can do. It is true that we are his "hands and feet." No one else has your particular background, experience, gifts and connections. No one else can take your place. Many people have special talents and gifts to offer but wait to be asked. Consider this your invitation to step up and serve. If you already are active in one of our ministries please renew your commitment. If you have not been active, now is your chance to start. While you visit with ministry representatives Boy Scout Troop 88 will be serving a pancake breakfast for your enjoyment. Five lucky winners of Thanksgiving turkeys will be picked from the volunteers who sign up for ministries.

Renew Week Two: Loving the Earth

God created the earth out of love. How well do we love God's creation? Do we see ourselves as having arbitrary power to exploit it, or can we grown in our relationship with our planet, taking only what we need to sustain and nourish us? Now is a unique time for us to renew our values and to change insensitive attitudes and destructive actions that harm the earth. We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of God's creation. Care for the earth is a duty of our faith and a sign of our concern for all people.

Attention High School Seniors!

Next spring, a high school senior from our diocese will be awarded a four-year scholarship to the Catholic University of America. This could be you! Look for applications in the gathering area. For more information, please contact Teresa Thompson in the parish office at 787-5168.

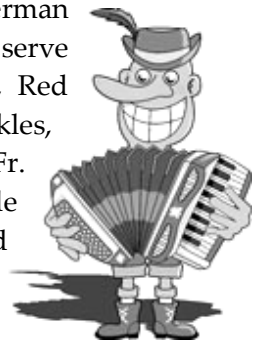
High School Youth Event
Wednesday, October 15
6:00 – 8:00 pm

A Christmas Offering... of Music

We don't want your money... just your voice! The combined voices of the Piedmont Valley Ministerial Association will be presenting *The Christmas Offering: Celebrating the Greatest Gift of All* on Sunday, December 14. Rehearsals will be held at the Piedmont Valley Lutheran Church, 4:00-5:30 on Sunday afternoons **beginning on October 12**. Deacon John Osnes will be directing the combined choirs. To join your neighbors in song, contact Jane Abernathy at 716-0286. Please sign up in advance so enough copies of the music can be ordered. We can also order practice CDs.

Oktoberfest 2008

The Knights of Columbus will host Oktoberfest 2008 on Sunday, October 19, beginning with the Family Fun Walk/Run from 3 to 5 pm (registration begins at 1:30) followed by a German FoodFest at 5 pm. We will serve Bratwursts, German Potato Salad, Red Cabbage, Sauerkraut, Dill Pickles, Black Forest Cake, and Root Beer. Fr. Arnie Kari from Sturgis will provide music for your listening and dancing pleasure.



News from Around the Diocese

October 12, 2008

Are You a Divorced Catholic?

Have you ever wondered about annulments and nullity studies? In the next few weeks, some of these questions will be addressed in the bulletin. Then, on Monday, October 20, an informational meeting on Catholic annulments will be held at 6:30 pm at Christ the King Church in Presho. The presenters will be Fr. Leo Hausmann, the diocesan judicial vicar, and Fr. Dan Juelfs, the defender of the bond for the diocese. There is no charge to attend but pre-registration is recommended. To register, contact Jill at Family Life Ministries at 343-3541 or jslegner@diorc.org.

Do I have to wait for my declaration of invalidity (annulment) before getting remarried? In order for your marriage to be validated in the Catholic Church, the freedom to enter into another marriage has to be established. This is done through a nullity study. *What if I am already remarried?* After receiving a declaration of invalidity, your current marriage can be validated in the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church wants all of its members to become reconciled so they can enjoy the benefits of full communion in the church.

Adult Leader Training for Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) October 24-26, Blessed Sacrament

National TEC leaders will provide training. Guest speakers are Jim Kinyon, Director of Catholic Social Services who will speak about suicide prevention and referral, and Linda Severns, Director of Religious Education and Safe Environment Coordinator, will speak about diocesan safe environment procedures. For more information, contact Jeannie Fischer at 673-2958 or go to www.rapidcitydiocese.org/Ministries/Youth.htm.

Last Chance to Register!

T he Annual Diocesan Women's Retreat, *The Lord is With You*, will be held October 17-19 at Outlaw Ranch in Custer. Fr. Dick McCaslin SJ and Sr. Marie Schwan CSJ will direct the retreat using the Angel Gabriel's words to Mary to set the framework and focus of the retreat. The presentations will focus on the incredible mystery of how God is present with each of us. The registration deadline is Friday, October 10; the fee is $95. To register, call Family Life Ministries at 343-3541.

GodStruck Concert

GodStruck, a Christian rock band from Gregory, SD, will perform at Alternative Fuel Coffee House in Rapid City on October 24 at 8:00 pm. This will be a fundraiser for some remodeling at St. Joseph's Church in Gregory.

Friends of Luke and Martha

The Friends of Luke and Martha is an organization of people ages 21-55 who are single for any reason. We encourage participants to take time to see how they are developing spiritually and using the gifts God has given them. We have fun too! Our next monthly meeting will be held Sunday, October 12, at 7 pm in room 107 at Blessed Sacrament Church. Hope to see you there! If you have questions, call Terry Schroeder at 341-1143.

Victim Assistance

Our diocese provides confidential, caring, knowledgeable support in cases of sexual misconduct by church personnel. If you need this type of support please contact Maryann Tully, Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 209-3418.

Next Weekend's Ministry Schedule

October 18-19, 2008

Ministry	Saturday, October 18 5:00 pm	Sunday, October 19 8:00 am	Sunday, October 19 10:30 am
Bread Baker	Betsy Van Asma	Betsy Van Asma	Betsy Van Asma
Altar Servers	Bethany Ehresmann Hannah Ehresmann Elijah Ehresmann	Dane Schroeder Hannah Schroeder Liam Schroeder	Mary Pulaski Christian Weaver Kayla McCaskell
Precious Blood	Greg Sass Diane Clarke Jacqui Blaha Jayme Hunt	Larry Williamson Mary Antonsen Dennis Fischer Frank Boner	Rose Williamson Judy Nelson Jan Schurman Christine Didriksen
Precious Body	Reggie Hunt	Donna Boner	Curt Lauinger
Lectors	Greg Sass Cindy Thompson	Larry Williamson Joyce Williamson	Bernadette Usera John Usera
Sacristans	Cindy and Craig Thompson	Donna and Frank Boner	Rose Williamson
Ushers	Bette Stebbins Jami Korton	Marc Jacobs Kevin Rohrbach	Brad McCaskell Dorothy Tinnell
Choir	Family Choir	Regina's Minstrels	Folk Choir

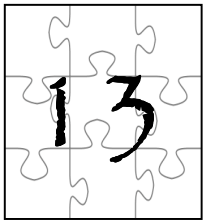
Intercessory Prayers

Life and Health Concerns

Dean Antonsen, Wanda Clemmons, Jan Collings, Joe Creek, Tony Greer, Dorothy Norman, Polly Padgett, Jim Raba, Marty Reeve, Jill Trautman, Peggy Volin

Repose

Bridget Hansen



Collection Report

October 5, 2008

Loose	$ 1,479.01
Envelopes	1,990.00
Votive	6.15
Student	61.33
Building Fund	135.00
Other	195.00
Total	$ 3,866.49

St. Teresa of Jesus

On October 15 we will celebrate the memorial of St. Teresa of Jesus. Teresa was born into Spanish nobility, the daughter of Don Alonso Sanchez de Cepeda and Doña Beatriz. She grew up reading the lives of the saints, and playing "hermit" in the garden. Crippled by disease in her youth, she was cured after prayer to Saint Joseph. Her mother died when Teresa was 12, and Teresa prayed to Our Lady to be her mother's replacement. Her father opposed her entry to religious life, so she left home without telling anyone, and entered a Carmelite house at age 17. Seeing her conviction to her call, her father and family finally consented. Soon after taking her vows, Teresa began receiving visions, and was examined by Dominicans and Jesuits, including Saint Francis Borgia, who pronounced the visions to be holy and true. She considered her original house too lax in its rule, so she founded a reformed convent of Saint John of Avila. She and St. John of the Cross eventually founded several Carmelite houses, often against fierce opposition from local authorities. She was proclaimed a Doctor of the Church on 27 September 1970 by Pope Paul VI.

For the Ride Home

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 12, 2008

Scripture

- Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us! (Isaiah 25:9)
- You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. (Psalm 23:5)
- My God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:19)
- Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find. (Matthew 22:9)

Reflection

- Who is invited to the feast?
- What will God supply for the feast?
- Where is the feast? Are you attending?
- Who will you bring to the feast?

This rests in the conviction that the life and ministry of Jesus was focused on those at the margins of religious and social institutions to such a degree that he himself identified with them unto death and into hell. In this view Christ's Spirit is to be discerned in the struggle for liberation among those who have been cast to the margins of Church and society, making it possible to embrace marginalized existence itself.[1]

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[1] Downey, Michael, *The New Dictionary of Catholic Spirituality*, (Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 1993), 624.